

MTCA/SMS INTEGRATION TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

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June 18, 2010

Here is input on the draft definition of sediment. The definition discussed at the work group meeting on June 2 was:

Sediment: *“Any particulate matter which has been deposited or is present on the bed or bottom of a body of water that a.) exists for a minimum of six contiguous weeks on an annual basis or b) is at or below mean annual flood level or c) is at or below the highest tide level.”*

- As I understand it, one of the primary purposes of this rulemaking effort is to reconcile MTCA with SMS to create a workable system where MTCA and SMS dovetail rather than clash; a regulatory system that everyone can understand. It seems that inserting the 6 week wet provision (based on aquatic insect life cycles) in this definition may make it hard to reconcile with MTCA. In such situations where water is only present for a few months, for the rest of the year might the particulate material arguably be considered a soil and the MTCA-type receptors/pathways be in play? Such an overly inclusive definition of sediment potentially raises conflicting issues within the regulatory programs, which should be avoided. Given this, it would seem best to exclude/delete the reference to 6 weeks wet, and simply list the types of water bodies to which the SMS will apply.
- It would also be helpful to state that particulate material present within treatment facilities is not sediment.

Based on these bullets, here is a REVISED definition for your consideration:

“Sediment”: *Particulate matter that has been deposited or is present on the bed or bottom of lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, salt waters, or wetlands at or below mean annual flood level, or at or below the highest tide level. Particulate material present within treatment facilities is not sediment.*